

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T STATE 015786

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: CALL ON KUZNETSOV

REF: MOSCOW 0826

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SONNENFELDT

1. IN COURSE YOUR DISCUSSION WITH KUZNETSOV, YOU MIGHT AT YOUR DISCRETION MENTION THE PUBLIC RELATIONS ASPECT OF THE APOLLO-SOYUZ FLIGHT NEXT JULY. YOU COULD UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO THE FLIGHT, WHICH WE SEE AS SYMBOLIZING US-USSR COOPERATION IN THE SCIENTIFIC AREA, REFER TO OUR SHARED DESIRE THAT THIS UNPRECEDENTED JOINT ENDEAVOR RECEIVE THE FULL PUBLIC RECOGNITION THAT IT DESERVES IN BOTH COUNTRIES AND THROUGHOUT WORLD AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WILL GIVE FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO REQUEST OF US PRESS REPRESENTATIVES IN MOSCOW TO VISIT THE SOYUZ LAUNCH SITE DURING MAY VISIT BY NASA WORKING GROUP TO BAIKONUR. YOU COULD ALSO RECALL YOUR EARLIER DISCUSSION WITH KELDYSH ABOUT THE SOVIET REFUSAL TO PERMIT

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PRESS TO ATTEND JULY LAUNCH ITSELF. FYI. NASA HAS

SAID THAT IT WILL SUPPORT REQUEST FOR MAY VISIT WITH
SOVIETS AT PROJECT DIRECTORS' MEETING AT HOUSTON THE END
OF THIS MONTH. END FYI.

2. WE HAVE NO OTHER SPECIFIC SUBJECTS TO SUGGEST.
YOU COULD OF COURSE DRAW ON YOUR CONVERSATIONS WITH
KOVALEV AND KHLESTOV T
DRAW KUZNETSOV OUT ON SOME OF THE
KEY POINTS ON CSCE AND MBFR. AND YOU MIGHT WISH TO
WEAVE IN A REMINDER OF THE MANY OTHER NEGOTIATIONS AND
CONSULTATIONS WE ARE ENGAGED IN, INCLUDING SALT II;
TTB/PNE; ENMOD (RESUMING IN WASHINGTON FEBRUARY 24);
FIRST EXPERTS' MEETING UNDER THE LONG TERM ECONOMIC
AGREEMENT (MOSCOW, TENTATIVELY FEBRUARY 12). KISSINGER

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